

material for road-making. The material for many of our existing tar-macadam roads has in fact been extracted from these spoil heaps.

Royalties

These are payments which the lessees have to pay for all mines actually worked. The amounts vary according to the value of the particular seam and are expressed to be payable per "yard acre" or per "foot acre/" but we need not concern ourselves with the methods of measurement or calculation. As regards ironstone the rate is usually "per ton calcined"—calcination being one of the processes of refinement. Royalties are, however, not usually payable until minerals, calculated at the royalty rates, to the amount of the minimum rent have been worked, but when mines in excess of the minimum rent have been worked then the excess royalties become payable. One may therefore wonder what happens when in any year the royalties exceed the amount of the minimum rent, but in a subsequent year do not reach that figure. This position is governed by the "shorts" clause, which provides that the lessees are not entitled to recoup any short workings out of the overworkings of any subsequent year. If, therefore, the workings in any year exceed the amount of the minimum rent, the lessor will receive more than

the minimum
rent, but if the workings do not reach
the amount
of the minimum rent, the lessor will
still receive
the minimum rent.

Plans

The provisions as to the keeping of
plans *by*
the lessees are quite distinct from the
statutory